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By Terry Lewis Friday, August 13, 2010

Current lending and financing options will be discussed.

ALBANY, Ga. — U.S. Rep. Sanford Bishop, D-Albany, announced Wednesday that he will host a free forum for small businesses in Southwest Georgia to learn about current lending and financing options available through the Small Business Administration (SBA).

The forum will be held 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Monday at Albany Technical College's Kirkland Conference Center.

"Small businesses are vital to Southwest Georgia's economy and play an important role in our economic recovery efforts," Bishop said. "Yet almost two years after a financial crisis caused a near collapse of the economy, many small businesses in Georgia are still having difficulties finding the working capital they need to invest in new jobs and new markets.

"This free forum will help small businesses in the Second Congressional District better understand the great variety of SBA loan programs available to Southwest Georgia."

Confirmed guests include Bishop; Thelma Adams-Johnson, executive director of Albany Community Together; Debbie Finney of the Small Business Development Center; George Hoag, SBA, and Perry Revell, commercial lender at SunTrust Banks.